AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-155. (canceled).

156. (new) A method for eliciting an immune response in a subject comprising administering a live attenuated bacterial vector vaccine to said subject, wherein the live attenuated bacterial vector vaccine comprises an isolated cell comprising an expression vector, wherein said expression vector comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding:

a restricted-copy-number origin of replication cassette comprising (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding an origin of replication that limits the expression vector to an average plasmid copy number of about 2 to 75 copies per cell, (ii) a first unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 5' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the origin of replication, and (iii) a second unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 3' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the origin of replication;

at least one post-segregational killing cassette comprising (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding at least one post-segregational killing locus, (ii) a first unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 5' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one post-segregational killing locus, and (iii) a second unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 3' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one post-segregational killing locus; and

at least one partitioning cassette comprising (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding at least one partitioning function, (ii) a first unique restriction enzyme cleavage site 5' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one partitioning function, and (iii) a second unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 3' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one partitioning function.

- 157. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the restricted-copy-number origin of replication is selected from the group consisting of: *ori*El (nucleotides 1250 to 1936 of SEQ ID NO: 1), *ori*101 (nucleotides 50 to 2004 of SEQ ID NO: 3), and *ori*15A (nucleotides 50 to 684 of SEQ ID NO: 2).
- 158. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the average plasmid copy-number falls within the range of about 5 to about 60 copies per cell.
- 159. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one post-segregational killing locus is selected from the group consisting of asd, ssb, phd-doc, kis-kid, and hok-sok.
- 160. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the partitioning function is an active partitioning function.
- 161. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one partitioning function comprises *parA*.
- 162. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the partitioning function is a passive partitioning function.

- 163. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one partitioning function is the *par* locus of pSC101.
- 164. (new) The method of claim 156, further comprising an expression cassette comprising (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding a promoter, (ii) a first unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 5' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the promoter, and (iii) a second unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 3' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the promoter.
 - 165. (new) The method of claim 164, wherein the promoter is an inducible promoter.
 - 166. (new) The method of claim 165, wherein the promoter is an *ompC* promoter.
- 167. (new) The method of claim 166, wherein the ompC promoter is a polynucleotide fragment from $E.\ coli$ spanning nucleotides +70 through -389, relative to the transcriptional start site +1, of ompC.
- 168. (new) The method of claim 166, wherein the *ompC* promoter comprises the following sequence: AGATCX¹X²TAAX³CATCCACAGGAGGATATCTGATG (SEQ ID NO:36), wherein X¹ is selected from the group consisting of G, C and A; X² is an insert having from 1 to 5 nucleotides; and X³ is selected from the group consisting of A, T, G and C.
 - 169. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X^1 is G.
 - 170. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X² has from 1 to 4 nucleotides.
 - 171. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X^2 has 4 nucleotides.
- 172. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X^2 has 4 nucleotides, independently selected from the group consisting of A, T and C.

- 173. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X² comprises a nucleotide or nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of ATCT; ATC; AT; TCT; CT; TC; A; T; C; and T.
- 174. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X² is selected from the group consisting of ATCT; ATC; AT; TCT; CT; TC; A; T; C; and T.
 - 175. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X^2 is ATCT.
 - 176. (new) The method of claim 168, wherein X^3 is A.
- 177. (new) The method of claim 164, wherein the expression cassette further comprises a nucleotide sequence encoding an antigen of interest located at the 3' end of nucleotide sequence encoding the promoter.
- 178. (new) The method of claim 177, wherein the antigen of interest is selected from the group consisting of a viral antigen, a bacterial antigen, a cancer antigen, and an auto-immune antigen.
- 179. (new) The method of claim 177, wherein the antigen of interest comprises a detoxified Shiga toxin.
- 180. (new) The method of claim 179, wherein the antigen of interest comprises a detoxified Shiga toxin 2 antigen selected from the group consisting of a Shiga toxin 2 B subunit pentamer and a genetically detoxified Shiga toxin 2.
- 181. (new) The method of claim 180, wherein the gene encoding the detoxified Shiga toxin 2 has modified segments selected from the group consisting of:
 - (797) ACA GCA GAC GCG TTA (811) (SEQ ID NO: 37);
 - (902) CTG AAC CTA GGG CGA (916) (SEQ ID NO: 38);

- (1345) GAA TTC GCG ACC AGT (1359) (SEQ ID NO: 39) and (1435) GAA TCA GAT TCT GGA (1449) (SEQ ID NO: 40).
- 182. (new) The method of claim 156, further comprising a selection cassette comprising (i) a nucleotide sequence encoding at least one selectable marker, (ii) a first unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 5' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one selectable marker, and (iii) a second unique restriction enzyme cleavage site located 3' of the nucleotide sequence encoding the at least one selectable marker.
- 183. (new) The method of claim 182, wherein the selectable marker is a protein which provides resistance to an antibiotic selected from the group consisting of aminoglycosides, ansamycins, antimycotics, penicillins, cephalosporins, chloramphenicols, linosamides, macrolides, peptolides, and tetracyclines.
- 184. (new) The method of claim 182, wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the selectable marker is selected from the group consisting of *tetA*, *bla*, *aphA-2*, and *kan*.
- 185. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the isolated cell is an isolated prokaryotic cell.
- 186. (new) The method of claim 185, wherein the isolated prokaryotic cell is *Salmonella typhi*.
- 187. (new) The method of claim 185, wherein the isolated prokaryotic cell is a *Salmonella typhi* strain.
 - 188. (new) The method of claim 156, wherein the subject is a mammal.
 - 189. (new) The method of claim 188, wherein the subject is a human.

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190. (new) The method of claim 188, wherein the subject is a bovine.